

DISCUSSION DRAFT

**For informal public advisory meeting March 26, 2007
Oakland, California**

§0000.0.

Control of employee exposures from disruption of concrete or masonry materials

(a) Scope and Application. This section applies to the use of powered tools or equipment to cut, grind, drill, core, or otherwise mechanically disrupt concrete or masonry materials.

NOTE: This section does not preclude the application of other sections of Title 8 including, but not limited to, sections 1509, 1530, 3203, 5141, 5143, 5144, 5155, and 5194.

NOTE: “Concrete or masonry materials” includes mortar used to adhere masonry units into structural units.

Exceptions: To be discussed

(b) Definitions.

“Powered tools or equipment” means tools in which the motive force that disrupts concrete or masonry materials is provided by a source other than human energy. Powered tools and equipment include those powered by electrical, combustion, hydraulic, chemical, or pneumatic energy. Powered tools and equipment includes powder actuated tools.

(c) Control of employee exposures to airborne particulate

During operations in which powered tools or equipment are used to cut, grind, core, drill, or otherwise mechanically disrupt concrete or masonry materials, water or local exhaust ventilation shall be applied to the extent feasible to continuously and effectively reduce the generation and presence of airborne particulate.

Exception: The operation does not result in employee exposure exceeding the Permissible Exposure Limits for applicable particulate listed in section 5155 including, but not limited to, crystalline silica, as demonstrated reliably by air sampling data applicable to the specific operation being performed.

(d) Safety and effectiveness of dust control systems

(1) Dust control systems shall be installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with manufacturer recommendations, and sections 1530 and 5143 of these orders.

(2) Procedures shall be implemented to ensure that water and local exhaust ventilation systems maintain their effectiveness for dust control throughout the workshift.

(3) Ventilated tools shall be designed, tested, and maintained, and the waste materials they collect disposed of, in accordance with applicable requirements of sections 1530 and 5143 of these orders.

(4) Electrical tools used with water as a dust control measure shall be approved for that purpose in accordance with requirements of the Electrical Safety Orders.

(e) Training.

- (1) Initial employee training. Training in the following topics shall be provided to all supervisory and non-supervisory employees prior to their assignment to jobs or work areas where they may be exposed to airborne dust from disruption of concrete or masonry materials:

NOTE: The training required by this section may be provided as an element of the Injury and Illness Prevention Program.

- A) The potential hazards of exposure to airborne dust generated from concrete or masonry materials, including silicosis and lung cancer.
 - B) Methods used by the employer to control employee exposures to airborne dust from concrete or masonry materials, including wet processes, local exhaust ventilation systems, and process isolation, as applicable.
 - C) Proper use and maintenance of dust control measures including the safe handling and disposal of waste materials collected.
 - D) The levels of exposure to total dust and to total and respirable crystalline silica measured by the employer, or by other reliable sources, that are associated with the types of tasks conducted by the employer's employees
 - E) The current values of the PELs for total dust and for total and respirable quartz and cristobalite found in section 5155.
 - F) The importance of good personal hygiene and housekeeping practices when working in proximity to dust from concrete or masonry materials, including:
 - 1. Not smoking tobacco products; appropriate methods of cleaning up before eating, and appropriate methods of cleaning clothes.
 - 2. Avoiding, to the extent practical, activities that would contribute significantly to an employee's exposure to airborne dusts.
- (2) Initial supervisor training. Prior to assignment to supervision of employees who may be exposed to airborne dust from mechanical disruption of concrete or masonry materials, training on the following topics shall be provided:
- A) The information required to be provided by section (e)(1) above.
 - B) Identification of tasks the employees will perform, which may result in employee exposure to dust from mechanical disruption of concrete or masonry materials.
 - C) Procedures for implementation of the measures used by the employer to reduce the exposure to airborne dust.
- (3) Periodic training. Procedures shall be established and implemented for periodic re-training of employees and supervisors in the subjects required by subsections (e)(1) and (e)(2) respectively of this section. Employees and supervisors shall receive periodic training at least once every 12 months.

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